



Docket No.: H0610.0026/P026
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Neils Christiansen

Confirmation No.: 1425

Application No.: 09/776,385

Art Unit: 1745

Filed: February 2, 2001

Examiner: G. Cantelmo

For: POROUS PLANAR ELECTRODE
SUPPORT IN A SOLID OXIDE FUEL
CELL (as amended)

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL ACTION (37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.116)

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated November 17, 2003 (Paper No. 8), and the Advisory Action dated March 23, 2004, (Paper No. 03182004), finally rejecting claims 1-4 and 6-17. Concurrently herewith, Applicant has petitioned for a two-month extension of time and has paid the appropriate fee. Consequently, this response is timely filed by April 17, 2004.

Claims 5 and 10 were previously cancelled. Claims 1-4, 6-9, and 11-17 are pending in the present application.

Based on a conversation with the Examiner on April 13, 2004, it is apparent that the Examiner has maintained the rejection of claims 1-4, 6-9, and 11-17 because he believes that the planar support material may also include a cermet material, as disclosed in WO 97/23007 (Naoumidis, et al.). However, Applicant submits that the limitation of "a

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Response dated April 17, 2004

Reply to Office action dated November 17, 2003 and Advisory Action dated March 23, 2004

planar support in form of a porous metal and/or metal alloy plate structure made from ferritic stainless steel, nickel-based alloys, and/or high chromium alloys," as recited in independent claim 1 *does not include cermet*. As such, claim 1 and dependent claims 2-4, 6-9, and 11-17 are submitted to be patentable over the prior art and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: April 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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